REMARKS

Claims 1-46 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner has required election in the present application between:

Group I, claims 1-30, drawn to a measuring unit comprising a first member having a first channel and second member having a second channel, and a partition member having a through hole through which the sample is allowed to pass from the first and second channel, wherein the partition member comprises a base having the through hole and a projection portion which projects from the base around the through hole, classified in class 356, subclass 246, and;

Group II, claims 31-46, drawn to a method and a mold for molding a partition member having a through-hole through which a sample is allowed to pass, the mold comprising: a male die including a core pin having a shape conformable to the through-hole; and a female die including a cavity having a shape conformable to the partition member, wherein the female die further includes a vent extending from the cavity to outside of the female die for degassing the cavity, and the cavity has an inlet of the vent located in opposed relation to the core pin, classified in class 264, subclass 328.1+.

For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, without traverse, Group I, Claims 1-30.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Terrell C. Birch, Registration No 19,382 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

2 TCB/pjh

Application No.: 10/716,412 Docket No.: 0397-0471P

Attached is a Petition for Extension of Time.

Attached hereto is the fee transmittal listing the required fees.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: July 10, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Terrell C. Birch

Registration No.: 19,382

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant